

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY IN LIBERTY

A Lawyer Kills a Stranger in His Office—Very Dark Case Against the Ex-Prosecuting Attorney.

Liberty, Mo., Jan. 7.—James T. Sheetz shot and killed John Lewton in this place to-night. The crime was committed above Allen's drug store and the first intimation of it was when the shots were heard by the crowd below. Sheetz is ex-prosecuting attorney and gave himself up to the sheriff a few minutes after the shooting. The case is involved in the deepest mystery. Sheetz will say nothing. He cried like a child when he gave himself up in the sheriff's office.

The sheriff and deputies accompanied him to his office, where the murdered man lay. A physician officiating next to Sheetz says Lewton came into the former's office several times that day.

THE SHERIFF'S STORY.

Sheriff Thomason was sitting at home reading, when Sheetz knocked at his door and entered. "He was very much excited," said the sheriff afterward. "He burst into tears and dropped on his knees, clasping his arms about my legs. I tried to induce him to tell me what was the matter, but he said he could not and continued to weep bitterly, begging me to protect him. Finally he asked me to go to his office with him. We proceeded at once but he would not say what the trouble was. On reaching his office and stepping inside he pointed to the body of a man lying on the floor of an adjoining room connected by an archway. I stepped up to the man and found him dead, lying on his right side facing us with his brains oozing out of a wound in his temple and his clothes on the left side over the heart saturated with blood. Sheetz sank into a chair and broke out afresh weeping. I said: 'Jim, what does this mean?' Still he would say nothing. I at once sent for Deputy Wynore and Marshal Courtney. From the appearance of the room Sheetz was no doubt seated at his desk, on which a lamp was burning and writing material lying as if it had been used. The desk is on the west side of the room and on the east side was a stove, by which was a chair which the dead man no doubt occupied. His overcoat was on the desk."

THE VICTIM.

The dead man's name was found to be John Lewton, a stranger, who arrived here a short time ago with his wife from Illinois. He was about 25 years of age with light colored mustache and hair.

When Sheetz was taken to the sheriff's office he still refused to make any explanation.

Robert Cochran, who married Lewton's sister, said to-day: "My brother Pierce lives on Vine street south of Nineteenth, Kansas City. Luyton's wife is my niece and is just past 15. She has been at my house since September. Christmas day she wanted to go to my brother's. I went to the train with her and noticed that John Sheetz got on the same train, but thought nothing of it. A short time afterwards she told her story to my brother's wife and when my wife and I went to Kansas City she told us the story. She says that Sheetz got off the train with her and went to a house on Fifteenth street, where he had a room rented. They got there in the morning and remained until nearly three o'clock, during which time he betrayed her. She went to my brother's that night and told the story."

Her husband went to California shortly after they first came here and did not return until New Year's day last. Friday he went to Kansas City and his wife told him what Sheetz had done. Lewton came back Saturday and we talked the matter over. He said he was going to have an explanation out of Sheetz and I denied it he would lick him. I went to Sheetz's office with Lewton Sunday night and did not find him. I advised Lewton to let it drop, but said he wanted an explanation of him, and that was what he did after last night. Luyton never told he would kill Sheetz, but that he would lick him. This is the story all tell the coroner."

Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Wamaker have become very warm

No Counsel for the People.

Does it enter the heads of the voters who are not able to go to Washington, that the sittings of the ways and means committee are either mere empty pretense or preparations for an assault by battalions on the resources of the public?

We send representatives to Washington to make laws for the general welfare. The majority of the ways and means committee seem to be permeated with the idea that they are sent to legislate for special individuals and industries.

If it be the duty of the general government to promote the incomes of citizens the price of farm products ought to engage the attention of Congress until some good is accomplished for the most numerous and most heavily taxed class. For many days we have been reading about what duties the iron mine and iron mill owners wanted, what the jute and hemp manufacturers wanted, what the wool men wanted. That is, what prices they wished to charge the general public for their goods.

Who is looking after the people? Who is calculating what they can afford to pay and what they would like to pay? Who is looking into the prices of farm products and the wages of labor in the thousand fields where the wages of the country are determined? Who is figuring out the incomes of farmers and how to make their scanty cash go as far as possible in securing comforts—a farmer never has luxuries—for themselves and their children? Volunteers for the welfare of the people do not appear before the ways and means committee, except when occasionally some member of the tariff reform league get permission to speak for a few minutes. He is heard, but with hardly polite patience, and the chairman gets back to real business by calling the next representative of a protected business.

How often must the testimony of a protected capitalist be taken before a congressman knows what the duty should be? The capitalists all ways say the same thing—that they must have the present duties or higher ones. The commission of 1882 recommended reductions but a republican congress substituted increases. In that instance experts on the commission examined experts and if it be true that republican congressmen are thirsty for knowledge, they had what they sought. But they paid no more attention to the report of the commission—their own republican commission—than they do to the selling price of corn wheat, and cattle. They went back to the lobbyists and made a tariff to suit the mill and mine owners. The people were sold out.

It seems that the people are not in this tariff business at all. The iron man or the jute man guesses at a duty which will prohibit importations. He gives himself the benefit of all doubts and guesses high enough. The Pennsylvania school in congress at once insists that the guess should be the law and the whole republican party from Maine to Kansas says: Yes we must have prohibitory protection from Alpha to Omega.

Farmers burning corn for fuel and iron rising. Farmers sitting at home voting the republican ticket and iron men fixing a new tariff in the ways and means committee. Farmers furnishing the wealth to keep up the iron men's profits and the votes to keep up the iron men's party. This goes on and the people are at the bar of the ways and means committee without counsel.—Kansas City Times.

An Ohio Legislator Dying.

Columbus, O., Jan. 7.—Hon. F. W. Knapp, the representative in the legislature from Defiance and Paulding counties, is dying here at his rooms, and his physicians, Drs. W. S. Kinsman and James M. Dunham have given him up as beyond all relief. He is a leading lawyer of northwestern Ohio, and was elected by 1400 majority over James E. Coulter, the republican nominee. This was his first term in the legislature, and he came here in good health when he was seized with the la grippe, which turned into pneumonia. His death will cut the democratic majority of the house down to five and to seven on joint ballot.

CONGRESSMAN STONE'S PLANS.

The Present Representative Preparing to Work for Higher Positions.

Nevada, Mo., Jan. 8.—The friends and political backers of Congressman W. J. Stone of this city, are authority for the statement that he will retire from congress at the expiration of his present term and seek the nomination of state senator from this district. It is generally understood that he has an ambition to be governor in order to step from there to the United States senate. He wants the nomination of state senator from the fact that in this way he can best acquaint himself with state politics and from the acquaintance of party workers whom heretofore he has never met.

It is a fact that the present state senator, the Hon. Barry G. Thurman of Barton county, does not want the place again, and further, that Vernon county is entitled to it by order of precedence, and therefore Colonel Stone stands a pretty fair chance of election, should not some stronger man from this county enter the race. The names of Judge C. T. Davis and ex-state senator S. A. Wight have been mentioned for the place, and as both are very popular throughout the district the indications are that Congressman Stone will have no walkover.

Mr. Stone's name has also been mentioned for representative from this county, which office no doubt would satisfy his purpose.

Farmers' Demand.

Atchison, Kan. Jan. 7.—The war which is being made on the elevator and commission business of this section by the Farmers' Alliance is approaching a crisis. To-morrow the representatives of the Missouri Pacific Railway company will be granted a hearing before the Nebraska state board of transportation in opposition to a proposition to compel that company to set aside a site for a farmers' alliance elevator at Elmwood, on the Crete branch. The board has already made such an order, and the question will come up to-morrow on a motion for a rehearing. By a private arrangement the company has given sites for two elevators at Elmwood, and the alliance contends that if anybody is entitled to the same privilege it is. If the alliance succeeds in this case similar demands will be made all over Kansas and Missouri, and in other western states for elevator privileges. The Elmwood alliance does not propose to buy and sell grain, but simply to store, clean and ship.

Montana's Democratic Senators.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 7.—When the legislature met this morning in joint session diligent efforts on the part of Clarke and friends to get a quorum had prevailed, and on the first ballot Clarke and Maginnis were elected democratic senators from Montana by a vote of thirty-seven each.

The Hon. A. W. Clarke, president of the late constitutional convention of Montana, is a well-known banker and mine owner of Butte. Martin Maginnis has repeatedly represented Montana as a delegate in congress.

Governor Toole, it is said, will sign the certificate of their election but secretary of state Rotwitt will refuse official authentication and withhold the state seal.

Fight With a Wolf.

Fort Smith, Ark., Jan. 7.—Sunday afternoon in the Boston mountains, some twenty miles north of here, two boys named George and Charles Gray were out in the woods, and found what they supposed were two puppies lying under the ledge of a rock. They caught the animals, which snarled and bit viciously, and started home. The supposed puppies were a pair of cub wolves, and before the boys had gone far they were suddenly attacked by a large she wolf, mother of the cubs, and both were terribly bitten and scratched. The boys drew their pocket knives in self-defense, and after a hard fight killed the wolf.

Save your stamps. Every letter that goes to Tennyson asking for his autograph is thrown into the fire. Autograph people and tuft hunters have never had much success with the laureate.

WILL INDICTMENTS COME?

The Post-Dispatch Hot After the Alleged Legislative Boodlers

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 8.—Prosecuting Attorney Davidson of Cole county is examining the evidence laid before him by a representative of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch of the corrupt use of money in the legislature last winter to defend the meat inspection bill. The Post-Dispatch claims to have considerable damaging evidence to be submitted to the next grand jury of Cole county.

From what has been published it appears that the St. Louis butchers raised about \$3,000 to be used in effecting the passage of a bill which required an inspection of live stock designed for slaughter in the city where such meat was to be offered for sale, a proviso being included in the bill to exempt farmers from its provisions. It was directed against the dressed beef and packing house interest and aimed to protect local butchers from outside competition. It passed the house and when it came up in the senate it was badly defeated.

There was plenty of talk of boodle during the time when the bill was pending and perhaps there was more or less truth in some of the charges and Prosecuting Attorney Davidson may find sufficient ground for a number of indictments. The next grand jury will not assemble until May, but there is some talk of a special term and jury if there is sufficient foundation in the charges made to warrant that procedure.

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A Generous Act.

The noble generosity of a true friend was illustrated in this city to-day. Edward N. Requa for many years a leading farmer and stock dealer has been unfortunate in his financial deals lately. Among his creditors was one to whom he was indebted for \$250. Mr. Requa came here to-day and informed this creditor that he had 120 head of hogs which he would assign over in order to satisfy it. At this juncture Robert Irons, a well known citizen of this city, and a warm personal friend of Mr. Requa, stepped up and gave his check for \$250 to pay the debt and turning to Mr. Requa said: "Take these hogs and if at the end of five years you think you owe me anything, all well and good. Do as you please." A noble and warm heart beats in the breast of Robert Irons.—Nevada Democrat.

Corn for Fuel.

The Rawlins county farmer refuses to sell his corn because he can get only eight cents per bushel for it. He burns it in preference because coal is worth thirty cents per bushel. He also lives in sod houses because lumber is worth \$35 a thousand feet. A little over a year ago the Rawlins county farmer whooped up a big majority for a high protective tariff which puts a tax on coal and lumber, and lets corn take care of itself. Result: Coal 30 cents, lumber \$35 and corn eight cents.—Atchison, (Kas.) Globe.

The United States Senate.

Washington, Jan. 8.—In the Senate to-day Senator Vorhees spoke to his resolution calling for an investigation of the "blocks of five" charges against Colonel Dudley of Indiana. He characterized Dudley's conduct as infamous and said that President Harrison was the beneficiary and instigated the very rewards of which he is now enjoying. The senator was very bitter.

A Scrap of Paper Saves Her Life.

It was just an ordinary scrap of wrapping paper, but it saved her life. She was in the last stages of consumption, told by physicians that she was incurable and could live only a short time; she weighed less than twenty pounds. On a scrap of paper she read of Mr. King's New Discovery, and got a sample bottle; it helped her, she bought a large bottle, it helped more, bought another and grew better fast, continued its use and is now strong, healthy, rosy, plump, weighing 140 pounds. For fuller particulars send stamp to W. H. Cole, druggist, Ft. Smith. Trial Bottles of this wonderful Discovery free at all druggists.

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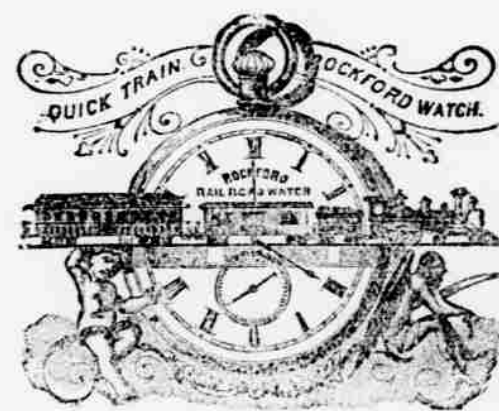
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